

IS NEGRO JOURNALISM A FAILURE?

Second Baptist Lyceum Discusses Our Press and Its Future—Not a Failure, but Inadequately Supported Because of Indifference and Disunion.

Sunday afternoon "A Day With Negro Journalism" was the feature presented at the Second Baptist Lyceum. The idea of President R. W. Thompson to call particular attention to the importance of our race supporting at this time the clean, able and honest newspaper, which are striving to mould a public sentiment that will be beneficial to the Negro and to the American body politic.

"The press" Mr. Thompson said, by way of introduction, "has a definite mission to perform; the people, like wise, have a duty they owe to civilization. The success of each factor lies in cooperation. How to promote a material understanding between the press and the people that will lead to a coalition of forces, is the purpose of this meeting."

The first speaker was Mr. A. L. Manly, editor of The Daily Record, who pointed out the difference between the purposes aimed at and methods employed by the daily, the weekly and the monthly publication—that the end of each was to disseminate useful information to the masses, but quick news service is the primary function of the daily, while the more elaborate and purer further expression of opinion and publication of special articles generalizing the situation as illustrated by the daily, makes up the peculiar province of the weekly and other periodicals. The Negro's needs and the white man's are one. The white man's best interests requires both the daily and the weekly, as well as the monthly and quarterly. The Negro must and will have them also. He admitted that the race did not support its press, and that most publishers are compelled to supplement their journalistic work with some other employment, to keep the paper afloat and the "wolf from the door." He is expected to continue The Record as a daily, and do the best he could, until an awakening of the Negro to the fact that such a champion is a necessity, and a stronger race pride, would bring the required support. He believed that the failure of a Negro enterprise honestly and intelligently conducted, was not an individual failure, but a race failure.

Mr. W. Calvin Chase, editor of The Bee, speaking of "Negro Journalism from a Business Point of View," argued that race journalism was a failure. The profession does not pay, for several reasons, among them the ignorance of the masses of the value of a paper; the jealousy and indifference and lack of patience of the intelligent; the unhealthy taste of many for the sensational and scandalous; and the disinclination of those of means to pay bills, however liberal their income may be. Mr. Chase deplored the fact that the clean newspaper despite the loud pretensions of the moralists, and was inclined to believe that the best paying plant would be one devoted largely to the report of scandals, divorce proceedings, court records, etc. He reviewed the history of Washington's efforts in Negro journalism, and while some papers were still struggling on and getting out with some degree of regularity, the nation's capital was a journalistic graveyard, and the bones of dozens of ambitious ventures stood out like tombstones under the dismal glare of race incompetency and disunion. He was uncertain of what Negro journalism

of the future would be, but the business today was a failure from a racial standpoint; and would not exist a day were the support of the white people withdrawn.

The discussion was spirited to the last degree, and points brought out pro and con, demonstrated that the people are waking up to the importance of such conferences, and are closely studying the situation. Excellent speeches were made by Messrs. Lewis H. Douglass, an old journalist; Lieut. R. E. Toomey, C. H. Briggs, John T. Haskins, L. C. Moore, C. L. Marshall, W. T. Menard and Miss Hattie B. Williams. The consensus of opinion was that the press was as good as the support merited, and that the remedy lies in keeping up a constant agitation, and stirring the people up to a point of realizing that they had a cause which demanded journalistic championship. There is hope ahead and the few must go on and overcome the defection of the masses. A number of leading educators were present, including Prof. Kelly Miller and N. E. Weatherless. Miss Hattie Drew acted as secretary.

Tomorrow at 3:30 p. m. sharp—Editor T. Thomas Fortune, of the New York Age; subject, "The Blessings of Poverty."

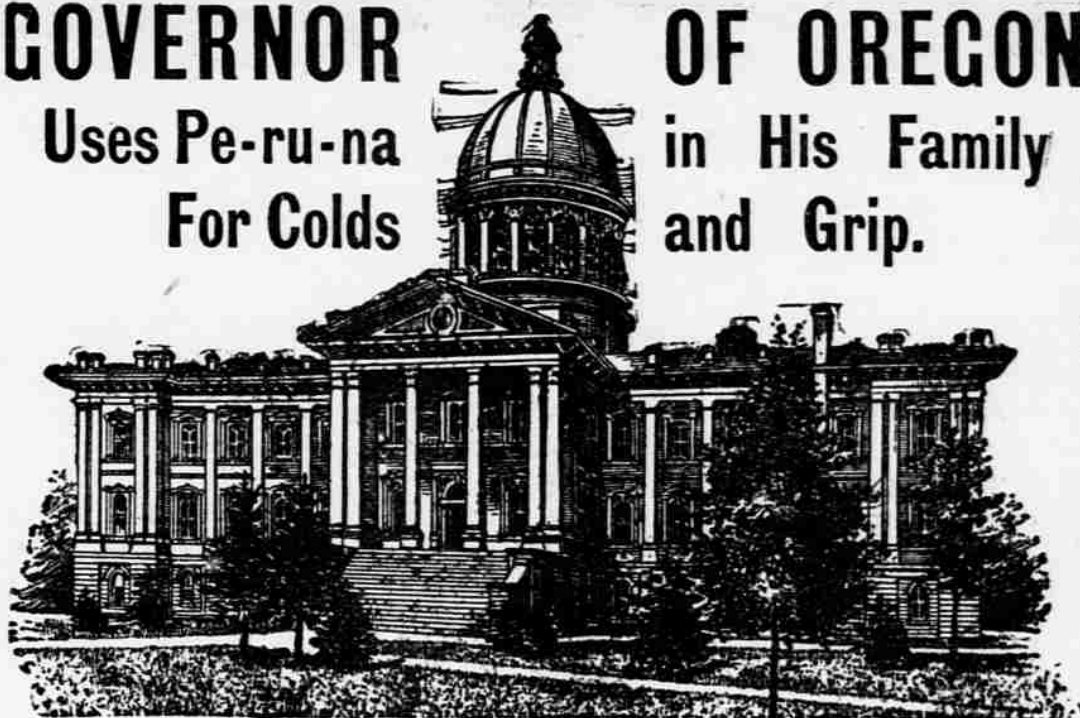
CHARLOTTESVILLE ITEMS.

Doings at the Home of Jefferson.

Charlottesville, Va., Special—The anniversary services of the Zion Union Baptist church, Rev. Daniel Cave, pastor, which lasted one week, closed last Friday night. The services were largely attended. Pastors of the city and county preached during the week. The anniversary was quite a success. The revival which has been in progress at the Ebenezer Baptist church closed last week with 35 conversions, among whom are some of our oldest citizens. Rev. C. H. Phillips of Beaver Dam, Va., assisted Rev. C. N. Harris, the pastor, in conducting the revival, as also did the pastors of the city and county. A revival is in progress at the Mt. Zion Baptist church, Rev. R. B. Hardy, B. D., pastor. Rev. Hardy will be assisted this week by Rev. Nathan Cole and others. The regular monthly meeting of the Building Club of the Ebenezer Baptist church of which Mrs. Mary Hooker is president and Mrs. Samuel Kelley, secretary, met at home of Mr. and Mrs. Burns Monday night. All present will long remember the delectables served by the hospitable host and hostess after the completion of the business of the club. Mr. Noah Jackson is ill with pneumonia at his home on Water street. Rev. L. J. Valentine, presiding elder of the M. E. church, preached Sunday evening at the M. E. church, Rev. E. Duke Venture, pastor. Our young men are taking a keen interest in the Y. M. C. A. work. The Sunday evening meetings grow more and more interesting Sunday after Sunday, of which Mr. S. B. Logan is leader. Interesting Bible talks were given last Sunday by Messrs. Ernest B. Allen, A. F. Angel, S. Saunders, R. Keiser and others. Mr. Clarence H. Cary, tonsorial artist at the barbershop of Pollard and Noble, sees to it that his patrons buy The Colored American each Saturday. Governor Tyler has signed the separate car bill, better known as the Jim Crow car bill, and it has become a law to take effect July 1. Regardless of the humiliation we are subjected to, we will look on the bright side and move upward and upward.

MONTICELLO.

GOVERNOR OF OREGON Uses Pe-ru-na in His Family and Grip.



CAPITOL BUILDING, SALEM, OREGON.

A Letter From the Executive Office of Oregon.

The Governor of Oregon is an ardent admirer of Pe-ru-na. He keeps it continually in the house. In a recent letter to Dr. Hartman he says:

STATE OF OREGON,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
SALEM, May 9, 1898.

The Pe-ru-na Medicine Co., Columbus, O.:
Dear Sirs:—I have had occasion to use your Pe-ru-na medicine in my family for colds, and it proved to be an excellent remedy. I have not had occasion to use it for other ailments.

Yours very truly, W. M. Lord.

Any man who wishes perfect health must be entirely free from catarrh. Catarrh is well-nigh universal; almost omnipresent. Pe-ru-na is the only absolute safeguard known. A cold is the beginning of catarrh. To prevent colds, to cure colds, is to cheat catarrh out of

its victims. Pe-ru-na not only cures catarrh, but prevents. Every household should be supplied with this great remedy for coughs, colds and so forth.

It will be noticed that the Governor says he has not had occasion to use Pe-ru-na for other ailments. The reason for this is, most other ailments begin with a cold. Using Pe-ru-na to promptly cure colds, he protects his family against other ailments. This is exactly what every other family in the United States should do. Keep Pe-ru-na in the house. Use it for coughs, colds, la grippe, and other climatic affections of winter, and there will be no other ailments in the house. Such families should provide themselves with a copy of Dr. Hartman's free book, entitled "Winter Catarrh." Address Dr. Hartman, Columbus, Ohio.

THE PARIS EXHIBIT.

Outline of the Phases of Negro Life Upon Which the Civilized World Will be Asked to Pass Judgment.

The United States Commission to the Paris Exhibition of 1900 has assigned space in the Social Economy Building to be used for an exhibit of the present condition and progress of the Afro-American. According to a circular issued by special agent Calloway, the proposed exhibit includes the following outline, arranged in classes: Education, to include photographs, samples of work of pupils, literary productions, statistical charts, etc., Homes, Farms, Skilled Trades and Organized Labor, Domestic Service, Business Enterprises, Professions, Military Life, Political Life, Churches, Books and Periodicals, Music and Art, and Work of Colored Women.

The work is progressing nicely, and when Congress appropriates and makes available, as it doubtless will, the \$15,000 asked, every detail can be closed up in short order and the success of the exhibit will be assured. The eyes of the world will be upon the Negro at Paris this year.

Empire State of the South

(Continued from 1st page.)

Dr. He was seen later upon the streets shaking hands with friends. The ladies of Atlanta are arranging to give Prof. W. H. Croghan a grand reception in honor of his thirty years of labor among our people as a teacher.

Miss Eliza F. Wilson, who has taught at Sumner building more than 10 years, is confined to her home by physical exhaustion. She is very popular in her school, and her recovery is anxiously hoped for.

BALTIMORE, CHESAPEAKE AND ATLANTIC RAILWAY CO.

Steamers leave Pier 3, 4 and 4½ Light street wharf as follows (weather permitting):

RAILWAY DIVISION (Pier 4)—4 10 p. m., daily except Saturday and Sunday Saturday only, 3 06 p. m. for Claiborne and intermediate stations to ocean city. CHOPTANK RIVER LINE—6 p. m. daily except Sunday, for Easton, Oxford, Cambridge and landings to Denton. WICOMICO RIVER LINE—5 p. m. every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for Wingate's Point, Deal's Island and landings to Salisbury. NANTICOKE RIVER LINE—5 p. m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday for Deal's Island and landing to Seaford, Del.

PIANKATANK RIVER LINE—(Pier No. 3)—5 p. m. Monday and Thursday for landings on Great Wicomico River. Dividing Dymers, Indian and Antipole Creeks, Milford Haven and Piankatank River to Freeport, Va.

Steamers from South Street Wharf—POCOMOKE RIVER LINE—5 p. m. Tuesday and Friday for Crisfield, Tangier Island, Onancock and landings to Pocomoke City and Snow Hill.

MESSONGO RIVER LINE—5 p. m. Wednesday for Ford's, Crisfield, Harborton, Evans, Boggs, Hunting Creek, and Messongo.

OCCOHANNOCK RIVER LINE—5 p. m. Sunday for Ford's Crisfield, Pungoteague, Nantux and Occohannock River.

WILLARD THOMPSON, General Manager.
T. MURDOCH, Passenger Agent.

Rev. J. L. Wilson, of Charleston, S. C., who is postmaster at Florence, S. C., and Presiding Elder of the M. E. Church, passed through the city Sunday week, en route to Chicago. He will stop over again on his way home.

There will be a grand birthday party, musical, and literary, entertainment given, by section F. H. C. Bruce chairman at Fifteenth Street Presbyterian church, Friday evening, March the 2nd, at eight o'clock for the benefit of the sinking fund of the church.